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re HB 5951, An Act Concerning Jake Brakes,

Madam Chair,/Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

I urge you to pass HB 5951, An Act Concerning Jake Brakes, as proposed by Representative Aman, namely that the general statutes be amended to authorize municipalities to ban the use of compression release engine brakes and to enforce such ban through the use of appropriate signage.

The particular situation I address for remedy is at the East Windsor Hill section of South Windsor, where teams of trucks driving North on Route 5 use their jake breaks as they slow down to make the 45° right turn onto Sullivan Avenue (CT Route 194). Their approach sends shock waves of sound over the entire local community, tearing the air and penetrating the walls and windows of our homes, day and night, at every season of the year. In short, the intense noise, whose incidence has increased exponentially with the building of huge trans-shipment facilities along Sullivan Avenue (and will increase even more, due to the impending construction of yet another Distribution Center) impairs the quality of our lives and values of our properties in the Historic District of Main Street, recognized as a cultural treasure throughout the State.

With passage of HB 5951, it is the hope of the community that signs forbidding Jake-Braking will be installed at the approaches to Sullivan Avenue (CT 194), both along the right (eastern) verge of Route 5 North, where the noise generated is especially severe, and in the median of Route 5 South, as traffic for Sullivan Avenue turns left. We have seen many such signs in towns and villages throughout the New England States.

I thank you for your consideration in taking up Representative Aman's Bill. I wish I had been able to

present this testimony in person, but family business  
demands my presence elsewhere. With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,  
ADM